THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAM I): (a) to (d) Government is committed to restoration of peace in the North-East and has extended and invitation to all those who have strayed form the paths of togetherness to give up the path of violence and to come forward for talks within the four corners of the Constitution. However, no militant gorups operating from Tripura has come forward in this regard.

Lifting of ban on NSCN

1561. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to lift the ban on the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) shortly;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that NSCN has agreed to hold further talks with the Government without any pre-condition for restoration of normalcy in the North-Eastern Region; and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the other State Governments of the North-Eastern Region would be consulted before the ban on NSCN is finally lifted and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) The Notification under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 declaring NSCN including all its factions, wings and front organizations as unlawful association has expired on 26-11-2002. NSCN (IM) have presented a set of proposals which in their opinion would form the basis for discussions to achieve a comprehensive solution to the Naga problem. It would not be in the public interest to reveal details in this regard at this stage.

Establishment of FLEA

1562. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish Federal Law Enforcement Agency (FLEA);

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether all the State Governments are not agreeable for creation of such an agency; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken by the Central Government to persuade them for the informaiton of the FLEA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) The issue of setting up a Federal Law Enforcement Agency (FLEA) to deal with certain specified offences which have inter-state and/or nation-wide ramifications was considered at length in the Union Government. It was also discussed in different fora including in the Conference of Chief Ministers on Internal Security. However, no consensus could emerge among all the States. It has been decided not to pursue the proposal for the present due to the perception of some States that this could impinge upon their sphere of responsibility with regard to the maintenance of law and order. The State Governments have however, been advised to enact legislation for the control of organized crime, on the lines of the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crimes Act. The State Governments have also been advised to set up special units for monitoring, investigating and pursuing organized criminal gangs and coordinate with counterpart units in the neighbouring States as well as in the central agencies. In order to effectively deal with the terrorist groups/activities, the Government of India have already enacted the Prevention of Terrorism Act, 2002.

Strengthening of Fingerprints Bureau of Delhi Police

1563. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the sanctioned and actual strength of Fingerprints Bureau of Delhi Police;

(b) since when the present sanctioned strength continue and whether this strength is adequate to meet growing demand; and

(c) what steps are proposed to strengthen the Bureau?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) The sanctioned